



**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT (POLREP)**

I. HEADING

Date: July 12, 2002
Subject: Oak Street Site
Taunton, MA
From: Frank Gardner, OSC, EPA Region 1, Office of Site Remediation and
Restoration, Emergency Planning and Response Branch
To: POLREP Distribution List
POLREP: 1

II. BACKGROUND

Site No.: 019AB
Delivery Order No.: 0077
Response Authority: CERCLA, §104(a)
ERNS No.: N/A
CERCLIS No.: MAN000103169
NPL Status: non-NPL
State Notification: MA DEP notified
Action Memo: Signed on June 6, 2002 by Larry Brill, Acting Deputy Director, Office of
Site Remediation and Restoration
Start Date: June 12, 2002
Demob Date: To Be Determined
Completion Date: To Be Determined

III. SITE INFORMATION

A. Incident Category

Inactive Waste Management Facility

B. Site Description

1. Site Location

The site is located on Oak Street, and is identified as parcel 2937-017 035-0039 on the City of Taunton Tax Maps. The coordinates for the site are approximately 41°53' 40" N latitude, 71°06' 50" W longitude. The site is located within a residential neighborhood and is abutted by a public housing complex to the west,

Oak Street and an elderly housing complex to the south, private single-family homes to the east, and vacant lots and single-family homes to the north. An elementary school is located within 1/4 mile to the east.

The site is a vacant lot measuring approximately 1 acre. The site was used for the disposal of solid waste until approximately the late 1980s. Fill, construction debris, asphalt, scrap metal, and drums were disposed of at the site in an undocumented manner.

2. Description of Threat

Drums buried at the site and associated contaminated soils contain hazardous substances including, but not limited to, toluene, trichloroethylene, and 3/4-methylphenol. Although limited fencing is present to exclude vehicular access, pedestrian access to the site is unrestricted. Those who enter the site may be at risk of exposure to these hazardous substances. The buried drums are in various states of decay and are releasing hazardous substances into the environment, as evidenced by the presence of the same hazardous substances in surrounding soils. Continued erosion of a steep slope along the northern part of the site, if allowed to continue, may expose buried drums.

C. Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation Results

In November of 2001, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) notified EPA of the presence of buried drums at this vacant property and requested EPA's assistance in addressing the site. On November 21, 2001, EPA initiated a Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation (PA/SI) which included walking the site with the property owner and representatives of DEP, reviewing site background information, sampling of surface soils, mapping magnetic anomalies using geophysical surveys, digging test pits, and sampling of buried drums. The PA/SI was concluded, and a removal action was recommended in a closure memo dated March 22, 2002.

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

1. Current situation

The ERRS contractor has conducted a site walk with EPA and has procured equipment and supplies needed to begin the removal action. Further removal activities are on hold until site access is obtained.

2. Removal activities to-date

June 12, 2002 (Wednesday)

EPA and the ERRS contractor conduct a site walk consisting of viewing the Site from Oak Street and determining the locations of the nearest water, telephone, and electrical utilities. The scope and schedule of planned removal activities are discussed.

3. Enforcement

A Notice of Potential Liability and Invitation to Perform or Finance Response Actions has been sent to the following potentially responsible parties: Rose Realty Trust One (as current owner) and Mr. Leonel S. Rose and Christine A. Rose (as owner at the time of disposal). At this time, the removal will proceed as an EPA fund-lead action.

B. Planned Removal Activities

Planned activities include securing the site, conducting additional geophysical testing and/or test pitting to locate buried drums, excavating and sampling buried drums and associated contaminated soils, overpacking buried drums, shipping wastes off-site for disposal at approved disposal facilities, and restoring the site to vegetative cover. As the drums are exhumed, they will be carefully logged and inspected for any labeling information which may indicate their origins. Removal activities will be conducted in close coordination with the DEP and the City of Taunton.

C. Next Steps

After site access is obtained, the ERRS contractor will mobilize to the site, set up a command post, and secure the site.

D. Key Issues

Air monitoring will be performed at the perimeter of the site throughout invasive site activities. Since the hazardous substances present are volatile and the site is located within a residential area, it is anticipated that engineering controls may be necessary to address air quality issues. Such engineering controls may include applying foam to the excavation to suppress volatilization of contaminants or constructing a temporary shelter over areas being excavated.

V. COST INFORMATION

| <u>Extramural Costs</u> | CEILING | SPENT | REMAINDER |
|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Cleanup Contractor Costs* | \$1,000,000 | 1,032 | 998,968 |
| Superfund Technical | + <u>\$200,000</u> | <u>3,200</u> | <u>196,800</u> |

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Assessment/Response Team | | | |
| Extramural Subtotal | \$1,200,000 | 4,232 | 1,195,768 |
| Contingency (25%) | + \$300,000 | <u>- 0 -</u> | <u>300,000</u> |
| Extramural Total | \$1,500,000 | 4,232 | 1,495,768 |
| <u>Intramural Costs</u> | | | |
| EPA Regional Personnel | +\$250,000 | <u>3,480</u> | <u>246,520</u> |
| <u>PROJECT CEILING</u> | \$1,750,000 | 7,712 | 1,742,288 |

**The current available ERRS funding (Task Order ceiling) is \$250,000.*

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.¹

VI. DISPOSITION OF WASTES/PRODUCT

No disposal activities have been conducted to date.

¹Approximate amount used for cost recovery purposes will be actual costs, for example, \$1,750,000 x 1.2702 (current indirect rate).

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Revised: 8/27/01

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For Federally Funded Oil Spills

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Regional Response Team

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NOAA, G-MOR
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☒ Rich Cavagnero, HIO
☒ H&L_x Dennisses Valdes, HBR
☒ Sharon Fennelly/Tina Hennessy, HBR
☐ Enforcement Files (HARD COPY)
☒ Dave McIntyre - SE&R I, HBR
☒ Steven Novick - SE&R II, HBR
☒ Arthur Johnson - (for Emergency Responses only) HBR
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